

16. The heparin cofactor II-containing preparation of claim 13, which is substantially free of an infective virus.

17. The heparin cofactor II-containing preparation of claim 14, which is substantially free of an infective virus.

Sub A1 ~~18.~~ A production method of a heparin cofactor II-containing preparation substantially free of a degrading factor, comprising a step of separating heparin cofactor II and a degrading factor from a solution containing the heparin cofactor II and the degrading factor.

A1 ~~19.~~ The method of claim 18, wherein the step comprises one or more treatment(s) selected from the group consisting of hydrophobic chromatography, fractionation by a water soluble polymer, salting out and affinity chromatography using a basic amino acid as a ligand.

Com ~~20.~~ The method of claim 18, further comprising a step for removing degraded heparin cofactor II.

~~21.~~ The method of claim 19, further comprising a step for removing degraded heparin cofactor II.

~~22.~~ The method of claim 20, wherein the step is gel filtration chromatography.

~~23.~~ The method of claim 21, wherein the step is gel filtration chromatography.

~~24.~~ The method of claim 18, further comprising at least one step for virus removal or virus inactivation, which is selected from the group consisting of filtration, a heating treatment and a surfactant treatment.

25. The method of claim 19, further comprising at least one step for virus removal or virus inactivation, which is selected from the group consisting of filtration, a heating treatment and a surfactant treatment.

26. The method of claim 20, further comprising at least one step for virus removal or virus inactivation, which is selected from the group consisting of filtration, a heating treatment and a surfactant treatment.

27. The method of claim 21, further comprising at least one step for virus removal or virus inactivation, which is selected from the group consisting of filtration, a heating treatment and a surfactant treatment.

28. The method of claim 22, further comprising at least one step for virus removal or virus inactivation, which is selected from the group consisting of filtration, a heating treatment and a surfactant treatment.

29. The method of claim 23, further comprising at least one step for virus removal or virus inactivation, which is selected from the group consisting of filtration, a heating treatment and a surfactant treatment.

30. The method of claim 24, wherein the step is filtration using a porous hollow fiber.

31. The method of claim 25, wherein the step is filtration using a porous hollow fiber.

32. The method of claim 26, wherein the step is filtration using a porous hollow fiber.

33. The method of claim 27, wherein the step is filtration using a porous hollow fiber.

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34. The method of claim 28, wherein the step is filtration using a porous hollow fiber.
35. The method of claim 29, wherein the step is filtration using a porous hollow fiber.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments effect minor editorial changes to the specification which are self-explanatory.

The amendments further cancel original claims 1-11 of the international application and replace them with new claims 12-35 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of this invention. Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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